



Public Comment Requested

331-C Storage Unit Operating Permit

Give Us Your Input!
August 28 through October 20, 2006

The Washington State Department of Ecology invites public comment on a dangerous waste permit for the Hanford Site's 331-C Storage Unit.

Background Information

Located in the southern portion of the 300 Area of the Hanford Site, the 331-C Storage Unit is a dangerous waste storage unit owned and operated by the U.S. Department of Energy and co-operated by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The unit is used for the collection, consolidation, and packaging of dangerous waste in lab packs or 55-gallon drums. Waste is then stored or prepared for transport and disposal. When a sufficient number of shipping containers of waste accumulate, waste manifests are prepared, and waste is shipped to permitted off-site recycling, treatment, or disposal facilities.

In March 2006, Ecology granted a Temporary Authorization (TA) to allow the 331-C Storage Unit to operate while the dangerous waste permit application, submitted December 15, 2005, was processed. This TA allows dangerous waste storage operations to occur in 331-C Storage Unit as described in the Hanford Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit application. This Operating Permit will be issued through a Class 3 Permit Modification to the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit.



The 331-C Storage Unit activities replace the functions of the 305-B Dangerous and Mixed Waste Unit. Ecology found, that the TA was necessary to facilitate timely closure of the 305-B Dangerous and Mixed Waste Storage Facility. We are allowing the coordination of closure activities at the 305-B Facility with the surrounding 300 Area removal actions where the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is the regulator. This TA facilitates the timely and cost effective remediation of the 300 Area while reducing the potential impacts to the health and safety of 305-B Facility employees.

How can I review the draft permit?

During the comment period, the draft permit is available for public review:
Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Department of Ecology, Nuclear Waste Program Library
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
Richland, WA 99354

To make an appointment to review the documents call 509-372-7920. You may also review the draft permit online at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/commentperiods.htm or at one of the information repositories listed below.

Portland

Portland State University
Branford Price and Millar Library
934 SW Harrison
Attn: Judy Andrews 503-725-4126

Richland

U.S. Department of Energy Reading Room
Consolidated Information Center, Room 101-L
2770 University Drive
Attn: Janice Parthree 509-372-7443

Seattle

University of Washington
Suzzallo Library
Government Publications Division
Attn: Eleanor Chase 206-543-4664

Spokane

Gonzaga University
Foley Center
E. 502 Boone
Attn: Linda Pierce 509-323-6110

Submit Comments on the 331-C Storage Unit Operating Permit to:

Jeanne Wallace
Washington State Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.
Richland, WA 99354
or email: jewa461@ecy.wa.gov

For additional information, or to request a hearing, please call Ginger Wireman at 509-372-7935 or the Hanford Cleanup Line at 800-321-2008.

If you need this publication in an alternate format, please call the Nuclear Waste Program at 509-372-7950. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.

